

TODAY'S TEENAGERS

"The Festival of Rededication"
The first candle was lighted and Chanukah, a Jewish holiday, began for Jews around the world.

The story of Chanukah dates back about twenty-one hundred years. A wise and tolerant Syrian king reigned over Jews and Syrians alike. Though they worshipped differently they respected each other's customs. Life in general was very beautiful for it was very peaceful.

This peaceful life ended abruptly when the old king passed away. As in biblical days the son became the king. "Jews must pray as Syrians — to a pagan deity," Antiochus (the new ruler) declared.

After living in harmony for many years with the old ruler Jews were stunned at this decree. High priest told the people "Hear me, all who would be free... We'll keep our God or die!"

Judah Maccabee, the priest's son, called all the men to arms from near and far. Though the men were untrained and outnumbered, led by Judah they valiantly beat the enemy.

Jews rejoined and yet, it was mixed with sadness. The Temple was desecrated and before the Jewish people could worship there it had to be cleansed and rededicated.

This is where the word Chanukah is derived. It means "the festival of rededication." There are at least four accepted ways of spelling the Hebrew word for dedication—Chanukah, Hanukkah, Hannukkah, and Chanuko.

In the dedication ceremony a menorah (candle-holder in biblical days oil was burned instead of candles) was to hold the oil. After searching throughout the Temple the Jews found only enough oil to last one day. Wonderously, though, the sacred lights continued to shed their brilliant light throughout the day and night for eight continuous days.

Last night marked the first night of this joyous Jewish holiday. One candle, known as the Shamos (the head candle) was lighted and then used to light one

other candle. Each night the Shamos and another candle will be lit. On the last day of Chanukah eight candles will be burning brightly beside the Shamos.

After lighting the candles and saying prayers, gifts are exchanged and songs are sung.

And so today, at Chanukah We sing, dance, and exchange gifts, but most of all we remember our forefathers who gave us cause to celebrate this bright holiday.

"The Diary of Anne Frank"
The shocking and painfully remembered story of Anne Frank was brought back to life, by members of South High's senior class last Friday and Saturday.

Harck Mendelsohn (Mr. Frank), Ellen Kogan (Anne Frank), and Rosemary Heath (Mrs. Van Daan) are equalled by few, if any high school actors or actresses. The accents and mannerisms were perfect. All of the actors were excellent though. I think they all deserve all the words of praise they receive and more.

Though many of the more humorous incidents were included, it was a shocking experience for me, to be sitting in the audience and actually believing that the girl on the stage was Anne Frank. She shed not only her name, Ellen, when she starred in the play but she shed her own mannerisms. She became Anne and not Ellen playing the role of Anne.

An interesting effect was brought into use when they played a tape of Anne's (Ellen) voice was played at different intervals. This was very effective and created the atmosphere needed for this play.

The whole senior class is to be congratulated on their success.

If you have any suggestions or comments pertaining to this column please write to the columnist in care of this paper.

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County Gets Additional Beach Lots

Acquisition of ten beach-front lots in the Torrance area under condemnation proceedings was authorized Tuesday by the Board of Supervisors on motion of Supervisor Burton Chace.

The ten lots, along Paseo de la Playa, expected to cost approximately \$225,000, will be added to eight lots previously purchased by the county to provide parking at Torrance beaches, Chace said.

Funds were budgeted for the project.

Tuesday's board action climaxed years of effort by the county to gain a clear title to the properties so that all 18 contiguous properties would be put under county ownership and developed for public use.

JOIN THE LINE-UP



FOR THE RED CROSS



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